

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-01

OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 /102 W

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R 291622Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5123

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 0477

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, GW, NL

SUBJECT: JANUARY 1975 MEETINGS OF G-10 AND IMF COMMITTEES:  
DUTCH VIEWS

1. OVER LUNCH EMBOFF SOLICITED FROM RONALD VAN BOVEN,  
NEWLY-APPOINTED CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY AFFAIRS  
OFFICE IN MIN FIN, LATTER'S ASSESSMENT OF AGREEMENTS  
REACHED EARLIER THIS MONTH IN WASHINGTON BY G-10 AND IMF  
INTERIM AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES. VAN BOVEN DESCRIBED  
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FINANCE MINISTER AS "HAPPY" WITH OUTCOME OF MEETINGS.

HOWEVER, VAN BOVEN NOTED THAT FAILURE TO REACH DECISION ON SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MSA'S IS OF CONCERN TO GON, AND, WITHIN GON, ESPECIALLY TO DEVELOPMENT MINISTER PRONK.

2. VAN BOVEN MADE REFERENCE TO AN IN-HOUSE GON REVIEW NOW UNDERWAY RE THE SITUATION FACING MSA'S. A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE SUBJECT, HE SAID, IS ALREADY COMPLETED. ACCORDING TO VAN BOVEN, THE STUDY CONCLUDES THAT THE POSITION OF SOME MSA'S IS LIKELY TO BE SO DESPERATE IN VERY NEAR FUTURE AS TO MAKE THEM EASY PREY FOR POLITICAL EXPLOITATION BY MEMBERS OF OAPEC OR OTHER OPPORTUNISTS. (HE DID NOT IDENTIFY MSA'S IN QUESTION.) POTENTIAL POLITICAL INSTABILITY INHERENT IN THIS SITUATION, SAID VAN BOVEN, IS ALREADY OF SERIOUS CONCERN TO MANY OFFICIALS AT MFA AND MIN FIN.

3. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH BY NO MEANS AT PINNACLE OF FINANCE MINISTRY HIERARCHY, VAN BOVEN IS CLOSE TO FINANCE MINISTER DUISENBERG AND, BY ALL INDICATIONS, ENJOYS THE MINISTER'S CONFIDENCE. VAN BOVEN, A POLITICAL APPOINTEE WITH ONLY ABOUT ONE YEAR AT FINANCE MINISTRY, ASSUMED CHARGE OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY AFFAIRS SECTION EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1975. IN DOING SO, HE DISPLACED SEASONED CIVIL SERVANT WHO HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED ELSEWHERE WITHIN MINISTRY. VAN BOVEN TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE SECTION'S REORGANIZATION WAS CARRIED OUT AT MINISTER'S REQUEST AND WAS INTENDED TO ESTABLISH DIRECT LINE OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN VAN BOVEN'S OFFICE AND DUISENBERG'S. VAN BOVEN ALSO SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKELY ACCOMPANY DUISENBERG AS LATTER'S ADVISER AT FUTURE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS ATTENDED BY FINANCE MINISTER.

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